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AUTHOR	Brown, Carol R.
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ABSTRACT

For many librarians, the selection of furniture for a new building or the major refurbishing of an existing facility is a once-in-a-lifetime task. The furniture selection process now involves much more than considering what products are available. The acquisition of furniture and shelving includes the following steps: look at the existing library space to determine which furnishings work effectively and which ones do not; study specific service and collection plans and consider how they relate to the library interior; determine the purpose of the new furnishings; consider what furnishings can fulfill the requirements already determined; and make responsible selections and purchase the furnishings. This second edition of "Selecting Library Furniture: A Guide for Librarians, Designers, and Architects," has been completely reorganized and rewritten and includes changes that have occurred in libraries such as compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act and new technologies that require special equipment. The book contains the following 11 chapters: (1) Library Planning and the Furniture Selection Process; (2) Quality Construction and Issues in Furniture Selection; (3) Shelving; (4) Service Desks; (5) Chairs; (6) Tables, Carrels, and Computer Workstations; (7) Planning and Selecting Furnishings for Children's Areas; (8) Furniture for Work Areas; (9) Sign Systems and Display; (10) The Bid Process; and (11) The Library Furniture Market. An appendix provides the goals, objectives, and furniture selection process for the Carrollton Public Library (Carrollton, Texas). Also included are a list of manufacturers, a list of associations with contact information, and an index. (Contains 190 references.) (Author/SWC)

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